

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for adding information to image data, said apparatus comprising:
first addition means for adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;
generating means for generating second identification information;
and
setting means for setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information.

wherein hiding means for forming the second identification information is not easily recognizable with by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information relating to a copyright and not easily recognizable with eye, and setting the second identification information in image data containing the first identification information, and

wherein the first identification information is formed by a first color signal, and said hiding generating means comprising comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion of on the image data including the first identification information, and forming means for forming the second identification information by a

second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to Claim claim 1, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said hiding generating means forms the second identification information having a second block size.

4. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to Claim claim 3, wherein said hiding setting means ~~comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion of the image data, and~~ sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

5. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to Claim claim 4, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and the second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

6. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to Claim claim 1, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

7. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

8. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for adding information to image data, said method comprising a setting step including:
a first addition step, of adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;

a generating step, of generating second identification information; and
a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information.

wherein the forming a second identification information is not easily recognizable with by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information relating to a copyright and not easily recognizable with eye; and

setting the second identification information in image data containing the first identification information, and

wherein the first identification information is formed by a first color signal, and said setting generating step further includes performing performs color conversion of on the image data including the first identification information, and forming forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to ~~Claim claim~~ 8, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said ~~setting generating step comprises forming forms~~ the second identification information having a second block size.

11. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to ~~Claim claim~~ 10, wherein said setting step comprises ~~performing color conversion of the image data and setting sets~~ the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to ~~Claim claim~~ 11, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and the second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

13. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to ~~Claim claim~~ 8, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

14. (Currently Amended) An image processing method according to ~~Claim claim~~ 8, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising ~~storing a program for a setting process stored therein, the setting process including implementing an image processing method for adding information to image data, said program comprising:~~

program code for a first addition step, of adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;

program code for a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

program code for a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the forming second identification information is not easily recognizable with by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information relating to a copyright and not easily recognizable with eye; and

setting the second identification information in image data containing the first identification information, and

wherein the first identification information is formed by a first color signal, and the setting process further includes said generating step performs color conversion processing for performing color conversion of on the image data including the

first identification information, and ~~forming processing for forming~~ forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to ~~Claim claim~~ 15, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and the ~~setting process comprises forming~~ said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to ~~Claim claim~~ 17, wherein the said setting process ~~comprises color conversion processing for performing color conversion of the image data, and~~ step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

19. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for adding information to image data, said apparatus comprising:
first addition means for adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

generating means for generating second identification information;

and

setting means for setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information.

wherein the hiding means for forming second identification information is not easily recognizable with by the human eye and is different in form from first identification information not easily recognizable with eye, and setting the second identification information in image data containing the first identification information, and wherein the first identification information is formed by a first color signal, and said hiding generating means further comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion of on the image data including the first identification information, and forming means for forming the second identification information by a second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim claim~~ 19, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said hiding generating means forms the second identification information having a second block size.

22. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim claim~~ 21, wherein said ~~hiding setting~~ means ~~comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion of the image data, and sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data~~ that includes the color-converted first identification information.

23. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim claim~~ 22, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and the second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

24. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim claim~~ 19, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

25. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to ~~Claim claim~~ 19, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising ~~storing a program for a setting process stored therein, the setting process including implementing an image processing method for adding information to image data,~~ said program comprising:

program code for a first addition step, of adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

program code for a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

program code for a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the forming a second identification information is not easily recognizable with by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information and not easily recognizable with eye; and

setting the second identification information in image data containing the first identification information, and

wherein the first identification information is formed by a first color signal, and the setting process further includes said generating step performs color conversion processing for performing color conversion of on the image data including the first identification information, and forming processing for forming forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to ~~Claim~~ claim 26, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and the ~~setting process comprises forming said generating step forms~~ the second identification information having a second block size.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to ~~Claim~~ claim 28, wherein the said ~~setting process comprises color conversion processing for performing color conversion of the image data, and~~ step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

30-40 (Cancelled)

41. (New) An image processing method for adding information to image data, said method comprising:

a first addition step, of adding first identification information to the image data, wherein the first identification information formed by a first color signal is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

a generating step, of generating second identification information;

and

a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating step performs color conversion processing on the image data including the first identification information, and forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the first color signal forming the color-converted first identification information in the color-converted image data.

42. (New) An image processing method according to claim 41, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

43. (New) An image processing method according to claim 42, wherein said setting step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.